Application No. 09/214.00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant

P17380.A10

: Hitoshi KUDO et al.

Serial No

: 09/214,001

(National Phase of PCT/JP97/02265)

Examiner: Varcoe, Jr.

Group Art Unit: 1764

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: June 30, 1997 (as PCT /JP97/02265)

For

: REFORMING APPARATUS FOR

MAKING A CO-REDUCED REFORMED GAS

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.112 IN RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED FEBRUARY 9, 2001

CONFIRMATION OF WITHDRAWAL OF FINALITY OF OFFICE ACT

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is in response to the Final Office Action mailed February 9, 2001 of which the finality has been withdrawn in an Interview Summary - Form PTO-413 which was mailed from the Patent and Trademark Office on March 13, 2001 and April 27, 2001.

Applicants note that the Office Action sets a three-month shortened statutory period for response until May 9, 2001. Applicants hereby request an extension of time for three months until August 9, 2001, and are concurrently filing a formal Request for Extension of Time for three months accompanied by the government fee. If for any reason the formal request for extension of time is not associated with this reply or any fees are needed to maintain the pendency of this application, including any extension of time fees, this is an express request for any required extension of time